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## BIBLIA IN NUMMIS.

Such is the name of a German work in our possession, published at Jena, *Anno* 1703. Its longer, and exceedingly verbose title, which expresses, however, most accurately its scope and purpose, reads as follows: "Brief Exposition of the principal Bible Texts and Narratives which are to be found struck on Medals, Ducats, Dollars and other Coins, not only of Emperors, Kings, Electors and Princes, Counts, Barons, Cities, within and without the Holy Roman Empire, but also of Popes, Cardinals, Archbishops, Bishops, Prelates, Abbots, and were thereon employed, partly for their particular Comfort, partly for the rendering of due Thanks to God, partly for the Instruction and serviceable Warning of others, partly as favorite Mottoes, partly by adherents of other Religions for the maintenance of their Tenets, partly also for Abuse by incompetent people; arranged according to the order of the Biblical Books," &c., &c., by Master Christian Schlegel, "*Antiquarius and Bibliothecarius*" to his "high-countly Grace of Schwarzburg Arnstadt".

We proceed to give, from Master Schlegel's laborious and faithful production, a few examples of Texts thus made use of as numismatic legends; and our principle of selection, for want of a better one, shall be the existence in our own cabinet of the pieces mentioned, a circumstance which of course makes them doubly interesting to us, while it enables us to verify the descriptions of our Author.

Exodus, Chap. xv., v. 6, in the Song of Moses and the Children of Israel for their triumph over Pharaoh, occurs the passage: "thy right hand, O Lord, hath dashed in pieces the enemy". One year after Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, had gained, at Leipsic, Sep. 7, 1631, his first victory in the Thirty Years' War, the event was commemorated at Erfurt by striking and distributing Dollars, of which many are still extant, bearing in the obverse field DEXTERA TUA DOMINE PERCUSSIT INIMICUM. The same words appear, with the date 1684, between branches of palm in the reverse field of a fine Dollar, or Scudo, of Pope Innocent XI., by Jo. Hameranus, and remind us of the efficient aid which that pontiff lent to the rout of the Turks before Vienna in 1683, and to their continued discomfiture in Hungary during the year following.

JOB, I., v. 21, is given by Schlegel as the source of what he calls the "Lemma" to be found on the coins of various cities and states as far back as five hundred years before his time, namely, SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUM. It may also be seen on the "Louisiana Coppers".

PSALM XVII., v. 8, includes the words, "hide me under the shadow of thy wings", of which the legend SVB VMBRA ALARVM TVARVM PROTEGE, on the reverse of the ducats of Ferdinand and Isabella, is a version. We possess, by the way, an instance of a somewhat profane application of the same text, in a Thaler struck long after Schlegel flourished. It is of a small German Count-dom called Jever, which being inherited by the notorious Catherine II., and passing next to her son, the unfortunate Emperor Paul, its Administratrix issued this piece whereon the motto SUB UMBRA ALARVM TVARVM is made to apply to a two-headed Russian eagle, between whose wings the arms of Jever are sheltered!

Ps. XL., v. 17, "thou art my help", in the form DOMINVS MIHI ADIVTOR, is noticed as impressed on many Dollars of Philip II., King of Spain; to which our author might have added that on some specimens the pronoun MIHI is strangely spelled MICH, illustrating the pronunciation usual in the Jesuit schools, *michi pro mibi, nichil pro nihil*.\*

\* Kundmann, *Nummi Singulares*, p. 22, n.

The first words of PSALM LXVIII., "Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered", appear on the so-called "Cruikston" Dollars of Mary Stuart and Darnley, 1565, 1566, and of Mary alone, 1567. The confidence in the divine aid expressed in the invocation EXVRGAT. DEVS. & DISSIPENT. INIMICI EI. would have been much to the purpose, says Schlegel, considering her many foreign and domestic foes, if she had not so often brought them on herself by her own fault.

PSALM CXIX., v. 89, "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven", or, better, ISAIAH, XL., v. 8, "the word of our God shall stand for ever", may be taken as the original of the VERBUM DOMINI MANET IN AETERNUM, repeated almost *ad nauseam* on commemoration-pieces of Martin Luther, and for that reason the most abundant perhaps, numismatically, of all Bible-passages, unless the other great Lutheran medal-text TURRIS FORTISSIMA NOMEN DOMINI, from PROVERBS, XVIII., 10, may claim precedence.

PROVERBS, x., v. 22, "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich". Such, in the translation BENEDICTIO DOMINI DIVITES FACIT, is the legend on certain Dollars of Christian IV., King of Denmark and Norway, 1588-1648. The specimens, in which these words are seen surrounding the very peculiar double-tailed heraldic Norwegian Lion on the reverse, are thought to have been struck from the silver of a celebrated mine in that country. This mine being so rich as to yield almost pure silver was named "The Blessing of God".

ISAIAH, VIII., v. 10, "Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: for God is with us". The last words of this verse are the original of the well-known legend on the coins of "The Commonwealth of England".

As one of the numismatic texts of the New Testament we find, MATTHEW, XI., 11, "among them that are born of women there hath not arisen a greater than John the Baptist". The words NON SURREXIT MAJOR, wrested from their application to John, and encircling a figure of Christ himself, holding a standard inscribed AGNUS DEI, appear on the later *Scudi* of the former republic of Genoa.

The passages JOHN, I., v. 14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us"; JOHN, III., 5, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God"; and EPHESIANS, IV., 5, "One Lord, one faith, one baptism", are all to be found on an Anabaptist Dollar of the city of Munster, which we have long esteemed as one of our choice specimens. The reader will perhaps recall the description of a Medal of this remarkable sect in our number for May, 1867. The inscriptions on our Dollar are in *Platt-Deutsch*, or Low German, and read as follows: OBV. FIELD; Dat: Wort: is: Fleisch: Geworde: Vn: Wanet: Under: Uns: 1.5.3.4.; LEG. We: Nicht: Gebare: Is: Vit: Dem: Water: Vn: Geist; REV. LEG. Mach: Nicht: In: Gaen: In: Dat: Rike: Gotdes:; (in an inner circle) Ein: Her: Ein: Gelove: Ein: Doepe:; FIELD, Tho: Munster:.

The nature of the curious and valuable book of which we have thus taken a retrospective review will be sufficiently apparent from the preceding extracts. Had its deserving compiler flourished in our time, his attention would doubtless have been turned in some degree to our own country, and he might have enriched his pages with Lord Baltimore's CRESCITE: ET: MVLTIPPLICAMINI, from GENESIS, I., v. 28; but no other contribution of importance, we believe, could have been derived from American Numismatics, either before or since his day.

On reflection, however, the singular gold coinage of the Mormons occurs to us, with its legend HOLINESS TO THE LORD. A specimen, Five Dollars in intrinsic value, is now before us, bearing OBV. An Eagle, grasping in its talons three arrows and an olive branch, and sheltering a bee-hive between its wings, LEG. DESERET ASSAY OFFICE PURE GOLD; REV. A Lion *couchant*, with the date 1860 beneath, and the legend *Holiness* &c. in a peculiar cipher. This type is not given in Dr. Dickeson's Manual. The original text is to be found, EXODUS, XXVIII., 36:

36 ¶ And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

37 And thou shalt put it on a blue lace, that it may be upon the mitre; upon the forefront of the mitre it shall be.

38 And it shall be upon Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things, which the children of Israel shall hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall be always upon his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

## NUMISMATICS IN POETRY.

## Editor AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS:

Having read with much interest the articles with the above title and kindred ones, which have appeared from time to time in your columns, I hope I shall not intrude, or incur the risk of being thought tedious, if I endeavor to bring to light some of the many instances of Numismatic Illustration, which stud thickly the products of almost all ages of English Poetry, except the very latest. I say Numismatic *Illustration*, for I cannot by any means agree with your correspondent who says very little use has been made of them in the way of *narrative*. Why, the names of every coin, of every country, and every age, can be found in the poetry (particularly the Ballad Poetry) of the Mediaeval period. I shall give a few instances in this article, though I think the subject matter of the first article shows that the writer only intended to speak of Numismatics used for "illustration or figuratively". But, to drop all further preface, WALTER MAPES, who wrote some Latin poems in the 12th century, to satirize the clergy, included one by the title of "*De Cruce Denarii*," alluding to the cross on the silver pennies of that period, or perhaps, for this Monkish Latin is very barbarous, to the Cross Pennies, *i. e.*, the money collected by the clergy. I have no access to this poem, so cannot quote from it.

In the "Vision of Piers Plowman", written A. D. 1362, in the two and one word alliterative metre, without rhyme, of the Anglo Saxon Poetry, and generally accompanied by the "Crede of Piers Plowman", which is of a little later date, occurs the following on the same subject:

"Ande now is werre ande wo:  
Ande who so why asketh.  
For covetise after cros,  
The crowns stant in gold.  
Both riche ande religion,  
They rode their honour  
That in grotes is y-grave  
Ande in golde Nobles  
For covetise of that cros  
Menne of holy kirke  
Shall turne as templars dedde,  
The tyme approceeth fast."

The italics are mine in all cases.

In the same poem lawyers, "pledeten for Pennies and poundes the law".

Another true Numismatic illustration is found in the following, from the same poem. "Hankyn," speaking, says:—

"Madame mercy! quod I,  
Me liketh well your wordes;  
Ac the monie of this molde  
That menne so faste holdeth  
Tel me to whom madam,  
That *treasure* appendeth.  
Go to the gospel quod she  
That God sende hymselfen.  
Tho the people him apposed  
With a pen in the temple.  
Whether they shoulde therewith  
Worshiþe the Kinge Cesar."

In the same Poem, Mede gives all her guests in "Passus tertius de visione":

"The leaste man of her meyné  
A moton of golde".

Referring to the French "Mouton d'Or." The Devil "Judas Japed with Jewen Silver".

Finally comes something really interesting to Numismatists, viz., a repetition of the old accusation against Jews of clipping the money:

"May sothely be saide,  
Save in my youthe:  
I learned among Lumbardes  
Ande Jewes a lesson:  
To weye *pens* with a peis  
Ande pare the hevier."

Speaking of "Luxemburghers", that is base money, Piers says:

"As in *Luxemburghes* is a luther allay,  
Ande yet looketh he lyke a *sterling*  
The mark of that monie is good  
Butte the metal is feeble."



Luxemburghers are spoken of again in this poem, but the extract would be too long to quote. Chaucer also speaks of them.

"This maketh that our wives will assaye,  
Religious folke, for they moun better paye,  
Of Venus Payements than mowen we  
God wote, no lusseburgghes payen ye."

CHAUCER.—*Can. Tales.*

What these Luxemburghs were appears in the following extract from Wright's notes to *Piers Plowman*: "Lusseburwes: a sort of false coin or perhaps a coin much adulterated, common in the middle of the 14th century. Tyrwhitt quotes the Stat. Ed. III. c. 2., where this coin is spoken of as "la monnoie appellé Lucymbourg".

D. L. W.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE AND MASSACHUSETTS COPPERS OF 1776.

We take the following highly interesting Extract from a Letter with which we have been favored by Matthew A. Stickney, Esq., of Salem, dated Aug. 22, and are happy to lay before our readers information so authentic in regard to a few of our kind correspondent's numismatic treasures:

\* \* \* \* \*

"I see in your August number of the *NUMISMATIC JOURNAL*, a notice of a New Hampshire Coinage of Copper, of which I presume that I possess the only specimen. When Dr. M. W. Dickeson was about publishing his valuable 'Numismatic Manual', he obtained from me, Oct. 13, 1858, wax impressions of three coins in my collection, with some account of them, which he has introduced in his volume, with plates. Of the New Hampshire issue he gave no account aside from the Legend and Device, nor was I then aware that the State of New Hampshire had ever authorized the issue of a Copper Coin. This fact I subsequently ascertained from Peter Force's 'American Archives', when I prepared a communication on the subject, which was published by my friend the late Charles W. Brewster, Aug. 4, 1859, in the *Portsmouth (N.H.) Journal*. The Harp on the New Hampshire Coin, the Irish national emblem, may have been suggested by Matthew Thornton, then President of the Colony of New Hampshire, a native of Ireland, and signer of the Declaration of Independence, some months after its adoption in Philadelphia.

"It appears likely that both New Hampshire and Massachusetts contemplated in 1776 a coinage of Copper, as appears by the specimens in my possession; but the price of Copper would not admit of it, and paper was used as a substitute for metallic currency.

"The New Hampshire coin, with the 'Janus' copper of Massachusetts of 1776, and a Silver pattern for the first coinage of United States Dollars, beautifully executed by Jacob Perkins of Newburyport, and obtained by me from his nephew, which last was not accepted by the government, because it bore the medallion head of Washington, a too aristocratic design for a period governed by French influence—these I esteem as among the most rare coins in my collection.

"A Note in Vol. 8 of the New Hampshire Historical Collections, edited by Rev. Nathaniel Bouton, gathers from two letters of Hon. Samuel D. Bell and Capt. Wm. F. Goodwin, published in the same volume, that New Hampshire was first called a Colony in 1776, which appears to be incorrect, as I have among my papers a Commission granted by the first 'Congress of the Colony of New Hampshire' at 'Exeter', Sept. 5, 1775, to Joshua Wentworth, Esq., as Lieut. Col. of the First Regiment of Militia, on a printed blank sheet filled up and signed by Matthew Thornton as President and E. Thompson as Secretary, with an impression of a new Seal which seems to have been adopted near that time, and afterwards discontinued. The Seal is of the size of a dollar, and was probably made by Col. Paul Revere, who soon after executed the New Hampshire Coin before mentioned. Its Device is:—Five Arrows bound by three cords. On the right, a mast Pine, bare of limbs till near its top; on the left, a Codfish: the staples of New Hampshire, her forests and her fisheries. Legend: 'VIS UNITA FORTIOR. Colony of New Hampshire.'

"It is singular that I should have become the owner of two such rare relics of the Colonial History of that State, perhaps the only specimens in existence".

\* \* \* \* \*

M. A. S.

#### AUTOGRAPHS.—No. 2.

The provoking error in the last line of the leading article of last month's number, where CHAS. is twice printed for ELIAS, an error the blame of which ought in fairness to be divided between the venerable Boudinot who neglected to dot his *ss*, the compositor who mistook E for C, and the editor,

whose attention in reading proof probably flagged at the crowning moment, leads us to resume the subject and indulge in a few gossiping remarks on the elegant and useful pursuit of collecting Autographs. When we consider its influence in preserving the remembrance of remarkable persons, its tendency to promote historic and biographical research, the light which it throws on the different methods of utterance which characterize minds of various powers and in dissimilar relations, and the certainty that, by guarding the evidence of facts, it must promote the establishment of Truth, we cannot but assign it a very high rank among "hobbies". There is a common impression among the uninitiated that Autograph-hunters are in quest of *Signatures* merely; but we have never met with one of this comparatively narrow, and in fact destructive taste. We have heard indeed of a lady who cut out all the signatures from a most valuable collection of letters written to an ancestor, in order to paste them in an Album, thereby depriving the documents of almost all their worth, and forming a scrap-book of very trifling interest; but amateurs of autographs are, among themselves, correctly understood to be individuals who seek not for simple names, but for autograph names appended to documents, and those, if possible, autograph, documents of political, literary, scientific, or personal, importance.

This species of taste, or *dilettanteism*—to use an awkward but legitimate word—appears to have originated in France, to have passed thence to England, to have spread to Germany about the beginning of the present century, and finally to have reached the United States. We should be pleased to learn from some contributor when the first public sale of the kind took place in our hemisphere.

It is reasonable however to assume that, although the collecting of autographs has become a prevalent and favorite occupation only within the last two hundred and fifty years, it must nevertheless have been carried on to some extent from the very invention of writing. The elder Pliny informs us that he had seen the manuscript of the two Gracchi, Cicero, the Emperor Augustus, and Virgil. Some one therefore must have had a fancy in those days for the preservation of these relics of the pen, nor was that some one by any means the earliest of his tribe. But not till the commencement of the present century—its very first year in fact—had the diffusion of knowledge and refinement, and the distribution of means among all classes, extended so far as to admit of an attempt to dispose of a collection of Autographs by public Auction. It had been the property of the Maréchal de Richelieu and was far from being devoid of interest, but it found no purchasers. They could not be tempted even by the letters of the ladies of the court of Louis XV. to this great conqueror and gallant, or by the locks of hair of every color, black, brown, and blond, all tastefully tied and ticketed. Since this failure, in the year 1801, however, the apathy of the Parisians has given place to so strong an interest that between 1846 and 1850 not less than thirty-three autograph-sales were held in their capital, and 58,000 lots were brought to the hammer.

The first auction-sale of Autographs in Germany was held at Vienna as recently as 1838. The very word "Autograph" has not been in use more than a century and a half. It appears to have been first employed about the year 1733.

Of all the collections ever formed that made by the Emperor Napoleon I. would seem to have been the most valuable. It consisted of autograph letters of European sovereigns to himself; and must have contained some perilous secrets of state. Inherited by Joseph Bonaparte and privately sold in London, it is said to have brought 700,000 francs. According to O'Meara, the Russian ambassador gave 250,000 francs for the manuscripts of the Czar alone. But, if we may believe the current story, no single document was ever paid for at so high a rate as one of Jules Janin. Prince Metternich, it is said, finding the autograph of this "King of the Feuilleton" wanting in his cabinet, made application for it to the ingenious man of letters, who responded as follows: "I hereby acknowledge to have received from Prince Metternich fifty bottles of his best Cream of Johannisberg, and return the friendly giver my most heartfelt thanks.—JULES JANIN". The Prince, it is added, sent him, by the next conveyance, twice the quantity for which he had thus expressed his gratitude in advance! Magnificent Metternich! Jolly Jules!

Without entering into the question whether character may be discovered in hand-writing, whether there be a science of "Chirographignomy" to add to that of Physiognomy, we may yet venture to express our full concurrence with a German writer who says: "In the case of persons who have attained any degree of influence, to whose name and image any chain of sentiment attaches itself, everything belonging to them exercises an attraction which stands in direct relation to their historic figure. No one can learn without a very definite emotion, that the Chair before him is the identical one, on which of old the earthly remains of Charlemagne were found seated in the grave-vault of Aix; that this is the Sword which Francis I. refused to yield to the Constable of Bourbon at Pavia; that this modest Hat once covered the head of the great Frederic; that from yonder Inkstand welled the writings with which Kant founded modern philosophy; that this elegant House-altar received the prayers of Mary Stuart, even more unfortunate than she was guilty. But of all which man leaves after him on earth, nothing perhaps belongs to him so peculiarly as his hand-writing, that product

of his energy, intellectual and corporal, that emanation of his personality as immediate and as palpable as his actions. Not one of those relics before-mentioned is so intimately connected with himself, in not one is the connection so little accidental, in not one therefore is the recollection so deep and living. Set before the eyes of the coldest of men, of him who thinks any other interest than his particular hobby to be mere absurdity, the own-hand characters of one of those great Agitators, characters with which they once guided the thoughts of their contemporaries, shew him but the signature of one of the mighty whose counsel or whose sword has influenced the destiny of the world, and he will not be able to view these relics without a mixture of awe and sympathy. And is it not then worth the toil of the noble-minded to rescue them from destruction in safe harbors?\*

### ANTIQUITIES AND NUMISMATICS OF STATEN ISLAND.

We have been rusticated for some weeks this Summer on "Staaten Eylandt", as it was christened more than two centuries ago by the Dutch, in compliment to the States-General of the United Provinces, their republican Legislature, "*boogmogend*", high and mighty. We had the luck to catch the "Chills and Fever" there, and though we soon let them go again, our misfortune has retarded the appearance of this month's JOURNAL beyond all proper time. We bear no grudge however against this charming isle, like Elizabeth Barrett Browning's, so

"full of hills and dells  
All rumpled and uneven  
With green recesses, sudden swells,  
And odorous valleys driven  
So deep and straight, that always there  
The wind is cradled to soft air".

We feel, on the contrary, an undiminished interest both in its natural beauties, and in its colonial and revolutionary annals, a subject to which we have devoted, from time to time, considerable research.

We availed ourselves of this recent sojourn on the island to revisit the old Manor-house of Bently at its south-western extremity, opposite Perth Amboy. It was in a residence of the Lane family, called "Bently", that Charles II. found refuge after his defeat at Worcester; and the Jacobites must have loved to recall the fact. In an ancient mansion of the same title, in the county of Suffolk, Eng., could be read, till lately, the following quaint distich:

"When William the Conqueror reigned with great fame,  
Bentley was my seat, and Tollemache was my name".

But the name of the race which dwelt of old in the Staten Island Bently was not Tollemache, or Tallmadge, but the equally singular one of Billop. We have no space to enter into the details of its history: how the original Captain Xerper (or Christopher) Billop obtained the favor of the Duke of York, afterwards James II., for his gallantry in a naval engagement, was appointed "sub-collector of customs on Delaware", and Commander of the Militia in Delaware Bay and River, in 1677, having obtained in the meantime from Governor Edmund Andros, March 25, 1676, at a "Quitt Rent" of "20 Bushels of good Winter Wheat", a patent for this manor of 960, afterwards estimated as 1300, acres; how, having no son, he bequeathed his estate and name to a nephew, Thomas Farmar; and how a second Christopher, son of this Thomas, played a most conspicuous part on the island and in its vicinity, during the Revolution, as Colonel of the loyal or tory militia, and Superintendent of Police, suffered, when captured by the Americans, the most severe treatment, in retaliation for British cruelties to our own prisoners, and finally lost his property by confiscation at the close of the war. The facts in regard to this latter personage may be found in such excellent works as Sabine's "American Loyalists", Whitehead's "Early History of Perth Amboy", and Simcoe's "Military Journal".

The picturesque and venerable dwelling, of which there is a very inadequate representation in Lossing's "Field-Book", II., 609, is tall and narrow in form, two stories in height, with cellar and garret, and built of rough stone, with the exception of a spacious wooden lean-to on the eastern side. The western or principal front has been modernized by the enlargement of the windows and the addition of a high-posted piazza reaching to the eaves; but enough remains to indicate that this is the original manor-house of the first Christopher. The cellar contains a vault of very great dimen-

\* Von Radowitz, quoted in Schultz, *Handbuch für Autographensammler*, Leipsic, 1856, whence the materials of this article are derived.



sions, extending directly across the house, and leading to the supposition that the lord of the manor liked his glass of Port or Madeira, or had many valuables to guard against fire or pillage. The hall and staircase are remarkably plain. There is indeed no decoration to be seen anywhere, and this circumstance strengthens our conviction that the structure dates from the earliest English colonial days. The rooms have all been repaired in a mean style, with the exception of one in the second story, at the south end. This is more interesting in appearance, and has apparently been left in its original condition. On the floor of this chamber is said to be an indelible stain of blood, marking the spot where, according to tradition, the elder Billop, who was a man of violent passions, killed a negro slave-girl by knocking her down with a bit. On the principal floor at the north-west corner of the building is an apartment, unornamented, ill-proportioned and shabby, which once occupied the whole breadth of the house, but is now partitioned off. It was formerly the room of state, and here the Colonel, whom an aged lady of Staten Island described to us as "a large, stout, noble-looking man, who was accounted very clever, and pretty much governed the island during the war", was wont to entertain Lord Howe, General Knyphausen, Colonel Simcoe, and other officers of rank in the royal service.

Here too, Sep. 10, 1776, occurred the remarkable conference between John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and Edward Rutledge, on the part of the American Congress, and Lord Howe, who had declared that, in conjunction with his brother the General, he had full powers, as he felt a strong desire, to compromise the dispute with Great Britain. In his Autobiography, Adams gives us a minute account of the appearance of the place at that time. On reaching Perth Amboy, we found, he observes, that "Lord Howe had sent over an officer as a hostage for our security. I said to Dr. Franklin, it would be childish in us to depend upon such a pledge, and insisted on taking him over with us, and keeping our surety on the same side of the water with us. My colleagues exulted in the proposition and agreed to it instantly. We told the officer, if he held himself under our direction, he must go back with us. He bowed assent, and we all embarked in his lordship's barge. As we approached the shore, his lordship, observing us, came down to the water's edge to receive us, and, looking at the officer, he said, 'Gentlemen, you make me a very high compliment, and you may depend upon it, I will consider it as the most sacred of things'. We walked up to the house between lines of guards of grenadiers, looking fierce as ten Furies, and making all the grimaces, and gestures, and motions of their muskets, with bayonets fixed, which, I suppose, military etiquette requires, but which we neither understood nor regarded."

"The house had been the habitation of military guards, and was as dirty as a stable; but his lordship had prepared a large handsome room, by spreading a carpet of moss and green sprigs, from bushes and shrubs in the neighborhood, till he made it not only wholesome, but romantically elegant; and he entertained us with good claret, good bread, cold ham, tongues, and mutton."

Our account of the old manor-house is taken rather from some notes which we made on a previous visit, fifteen years ago, than from recent inspection; but we noticed no change as having occurred in the interval. Far different was the case, we lament to say, in regard to the interesting family burial-ground situated some 300 yards to the east of the ancient homestead. Here stood, in 1853, two head-stones, with the following inscriptions:

Here Lyes  
y<sup>e</sup> Body of Evjenea  
y<sup>e</sup> Wife of Thomas  
Billogg Aged 23 years  
Dec<sup>d</sup> March y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup>  
1735.

Here Lyes y<sup>e</sup> Body of  
Thomas Billogg Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Son of Thomas Farmar  
Esq<sup>r</sup> Dec<sup>d</sup> August y<sup>e</sup>  
2<sup>d</sup> 1750 In y<sup>e</sup> 39  
year of his Age

The material of both was brown sand-stone. The cemetery formed, in 1853, a small mound, overshadowed by an apple tree, and three straggling wild cherries. And here we may relate, on the authority of a relative of Col. Billop, who accompanied us on that occasion, that a daughter of the Colonel, who, like many other loyalist officers, was an exile in New Brunswick from the close of the war to his death, visited this home of her ancestors in 1824. She took some of the cherries from this burial-ground, and some flowers from an old trumpet-creeper which grew over the house, and on her return presented them to her father, who wept like a child on beholding them. We have in our possession a copy of an Indenture by which the Colonel, in anticipation apparently of the forfeiture of his estate, conveys it to Samuel Ward, under the name of "The Manor of Bently", but with the express reservation of "Sixty feet square for a burial place where the said Christopher Billogg's Father Mother and family is Buried, his father's head stone is to be the centre of the square, which said Ground is to be reserved to the said Christopher Billogg his heirs and Assigns for that purpose and shall not be broke up for any other use or Design whatever".

In spite of this precaution, the cemetery has been ploughed up, and the two stones have been deposited, with singularly bad taste, at the entrance to the grounds, that of Thomas being upright,

while that of Eugenia is prostrate on its face—in a state of transition therefore towards becoming a hearth-stone in some new dwelling, a fate which has befallen many a similar relic both on Staten Island, and in other places where the people, like Gallio, “care for none of those things”.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

#### SALE OF THE RICCIO COLLECTION.

We are indebted to Jeremiah Colburn, Esq., of Boston, for the following newspaper-paragraph, relating to the cabinet of Signor Riccio, whom we mentioned as a leading authority on Roman Family Coins, in the first article of our July number:—“A remarkably fine collection of ancient Roman gold, silver and copper coin has just been sold at the auction rooms of the Rue Drouot. It had been formed by the Chevalier Riccio of Naples, one of the most learned numismatists in Europe. The catalogue comprised 1542 lots, which included about 8000 pieces of money. Several sold at very high prices. No. 642, a head of the Empress Julia, was bought for 6,100 francs for the private collection of the Emperor Napoleon”.

#### THE OLIVER SALE.

##### SECOND NOTICE.

Mr. Sandham, of Montreal, has written us the following interesting comments on some lots in this recent sale: Of No. 865, Crimean Medal in miniature, which brought \$2.75: “You could not purchase a duplicate of it in Canada for four times the price in gold, and I can scarcely understand how that one got into the market”.

Mr. Sandham remarks that the principal Canadian pieces found their way to Montreal. “Lot 1370 would have brought double the price had it been sold there. Its present proprietor, who has without doubt the finest collection of Canadian coins in the Dominion, would not part with it for any amount. Lot 1425 was literally thrown away at \$1.50. I know that \$10 would have been considered reasonable”.

#### THE NAPOLEONS, I. AND III.

In a recent number of the “*Courrier des Etats Unis*” we find mention made of the following remarkable Autograph now in the possession of a M. de Saint-Albin. It is an order of admission to the “*Comédie Française*,” and a memorial of days when the monarch counterfeit could oblige the embryo:—

“Laissez passer le général Bonaparte.

TALMA.”

From the same publication we translate a numismatic paragraph:—

“’Twas at the beginning of January, 1852, and they were going to strike a new coinage, and substitute the imperial effigy for the image of the republic.

“The director of the mint brings the emperor a proof of the new five-franc-pieces. His Majesty, who was otherwise engaged, defers his answer to another moment, and then forgets the occurrence. Some days afterwards, the emperor received the first pieces, which the director considered himself, by the silence of his majesty, authorized to have struck; the workmanship was very beautiful, but the engraver, a courtier doubtless, had exaggerated the imperial chin-tuft, and had made of it a sort of hook.

“The emperor gave the order to stop. There were already 67 pieces struck, which are at the present day very rare, and much sought after by numismatists. The ‘*Ecu à la miche*’, as it is called, is now worth to an amateur three hundred francs.”

#### QUERY.

NEW YORK, JULY 7, 1868.

PROF. CHAS. E. ANTHON, *Editor JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS*:

On page 10 of “*Putnam's Sequel*” (to the Analytical Reader), published by Samuel S., and William Wood, 1830-56, I find the accompanying, enclosed by marks of quotation. Whence comes this specimen of Numismatico-Phonetics (or Grammatico, whichever you choose)? No clue is furnished by the book. Perhaps some reader of the *JOURNAL* can place it:—

“The words are not to be hurried over, nor precipitated, syllable over syllable; nor, as it were, melted together in a mass of confusion. They should neither be abridged, nor prolonged, nor swallowed, nor forced; they should not be trailed, nor drawled, nor left to slip out carelessly. They are to be delivered out from the lips, as beautiful coins, newly issued from the mint; deeply and accurately impressed, perfectly finished, neatly struck by the proper organs, distinct, in due succession, and of due weight.”

Yours truly,

F. A. WOOD.